Remarks

In response to the office communication dated November 28, 2006, the applicants hereby confirm the election of Group V (claims to a phage clone) made in the election dated September 8, 2006. (Group I related to polynucleotides, Group II related to polypeptides, Group III related to methods of preparation, Group IV related to methods of screening, Group VI related to other polynucleotides, and Group VII related to plant cells.)

Claims 1-19 were originally filed. In the amendment dated September 8, 2006, claim 17 (originally in group V) was combined into claim 1. Claim 17 was canceled accordingly, and the remaining claims were adjusted accordingly so that all the remaining claims were believed to fall into Group V.

To make it more clear that all the remaining claims are believed to be in Group V, all of the pending claims are canceled and re-presented as new claims 20-37. The language of the claims 20-31 and 33 is otherwise very similar to those presented by the preliminary amendment dated September 8, 2006. Presently added claims 32 and 34-37 are now presented in addition to those presented by the preliminary amendment dated September 8, 2006.

The applicants confirm the election of SEQ ID NOS: 9 and 10 for initial examination purposes.

The phage vector protein hereby elected for initial search and examination purposes is the fUSE5 protein of SEQ ID NO:11. Paragraph 97, for example, of the published specification discusses this production system.

The single specific species of a target for screening, elected for initial search and examination purposes, is a mutated Cry1Ac protein. This is further explained in, and basis for claims 35-36 can be found in, paragraphs 98 and 118, for example, of the published specification.

Paragraphs 7 and 12, for example, discusses the methods of claims 31-34, which can include high-throughput methods, as explained in the specification. Examples 1 and 2 discuss feeding phage presenting modified *Crys* to bugs and then observing whether the modified *Crys* retain toxicity. Screening protein-presenting phage for binding with *Cry* (and other) receptors is also discussed throughout the specification.

The present method claims depend from the elected product claim 20. Thus, it is believed to be proper to include them in the scope of examination. Any requirement for restriction of the method claims is accordingly traversed.

If needed, *E. coli* is elected for initial search / examination purposes, if requirement to select a species of host cell has been made.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees to Deposit Account 19-0065.

The applicant invites the Examiner to call the undersigned if clarification is needed on any of this response, or if the Examiner believes a telephonic interview would expedite the prosecution of the subject application to completion.

Respectfully submitted,

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JMS/mrc
Attachment: Petition and Fee For Extension of Time Under 37 CFR §1.136(a)